

7th Grade Science Syllabus
Germantown Middle School
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The purpose of this course is to provide the science background necessary to understand everyday surroundings and to pursue successfully the study of science.

Instructional Goals

By the end of the course, the student will be able to meet district objectives in the following topics:

- Distinguish the characteristics of living things and explain the importance of cycles of matter to living things. (L)
- Develop an understanding of chemical and physical changes, interactions involving energy, density, mass and volume. (P)
- Describe weather patterns, air masses and climate changes(E)
- Design and conduct a scientific investigation utilizing appropriate process skills and technology. (I)

Classroom Supplies

To successfully complete this course, the student will need:

- Two-inch binder with a clear cover- This binder will serve as your interactive notebook (INB) for this course and will remain in your backpack
- At least one pencil, one pen, and one highlighter (any color) at all times
- Loose leaf paper for your Science Notebook
- Calculator (basic 5 functions) from the 7th grade supply list- You may this during our Chemistry unit
- A pencil pouch of your choice- Large enough to hold both school supplies and lab supplies- This will be left in my classroom
- \$15 lab fee

Policies and Procedures

General Rules:

Students must adhere to classroom rules stated in the student handbook. Also, refer to the attached list of policies and procedures for my class. In case of student absence, it is the **responsibility of the student** to inquire about or obtain missed work. Missed work will be kept in a specific basket in the classroom. It is the student's responsibility to get the work he or she missed completed and returned according to the handbook deadlines. Our class has a Canvas page. This page will be updated weekly/by unit with the class's activities and assignments. Also, at this site, you can find a copy of this syllabus, links to potentially useful websites and videos, copies of any PowerPoints we will be using for class, as well as links to worksheets and activities completed in class. I encourage parents to create a Canvas parent account as a way to continuously check on their student's academic progress.

Grading Policies:

- **Mav Marks** will be checked after students have completed them for five days. If students complete all five Mav Marks, they will earn a 100 extra minor grade. Students who do not complete all five will receive an "X" to show they did not complete the assignment. An "X" does *not* negatively impact their grade.
- **Homework** is checked for completion and sometimes accuracy and must be turned in on time.
 - Each homework assignment will be worth twenty-five points. If an assignment is partially completed, fifteen points will be awarded. An incomplete assignment will be awarded zero points.
 - After four assignments have been collected, a homework grade will be assigned. Homework grades are minor grades.
- **Quizzes** will be given throughout a unit in order to gauge student's understanding of the material. Pop quizzes may also be given throughout the unit. Quizzes will count as a minor grade.
- **Tests** will be given at the completion of a unit. Test dates will be announced at least two weeks in advance in order to allow students enough preparation time. The tests will be counted as a major grade.
- A "NM" stands for 'No Mark' and serves as a 'place holder' for an upcoming assignment. The "NM" doesn't affect a student's average. A "NM" may also be placed in the gradebook if a student was absent when an assignment was given. Once the assignment is completed, the grade will be replaced.
- A "NG" stands for 'No grade' and is averaged in as a zero. This shows the student did not turn the assignment in when it was taken up. However, the student may still turn in the assignment for partial credit. An "NG" could also be assigned if the student did not put their name on an assignment. Students are welcome to check the 'No Name' spot in class to see if their paper does not have a name.
- **Extra credit** is up to my discretion. Students will be allowed to retake one test per nine weeks. Students will be required to fill out a "request to retest form," get a parent signature, and attend one zero block (either virtually or in person) in order to retake a test.

First and second quarter will be averaged to compute a 1st semester grade. The third and fourth quarter grades will be averaged to compute the 2nd semester grade.

- **Test grades= 66% of 9-weeks grade**
- **Daily grades= 34% of 9-weeks grade**
- **9-weeks grade + 9-weeks grade = 100% of semester average**
- **1st semester avg. + 2nd semester avg. divided by 2 = Final Average**

Additional Information

You will be notified of any changes or additional information as time permits, in most cases via the classroom's homework blog or Remind. A Remind has also been set up for the class. A-Day students can text @ladner20a to the number 81010, and B-Day students can text @ladner20b to the number 81010 in order to receive updates regarding important classroom information. I encourage both the student and parent sign-up for the Remind. It is in the student's best interest that the parent and the teacher work closely with one another regarding the student's education.